DATCP Offers Fun Family Activities at the State Fair

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MADISON – When planning your visit to the Wisconsin State Fair, August 1-11 in West Allis, include a stop at the Farm & Family Building. That's where you'll find the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) and fun for the whole family.

"The Wisconsin State Fair is the highlight of the summer for many families, and I am pleased that DATCP will again be there to answer questions and host activities for all ages," said DATCP Secretary Ben Brancel. "The Farm & Family Building allows us to share facts about Wisconsin agriculture and demonstrate how our agency is working for consumers all day, every day."

The Farm & Family Building is the home of the famous Veggie 500. Join the Wisconsin State FFA Officer Team and cheer on your favorite vegetable race car as it zooms down the track. Five races run each hour, and children take home a ribbon for participating.

Come see the 66th Alice in Dairyland Kristin Olson at select times in the Farm & Family Building. See her Chevrolet Flex-Fuel Tahoe, courtesy of the Wisconsin Corn Promotion Board, and meet the state's official agricultural ambassador.

Food Safety staff will challenge fairgoers with the game, "Are You a Grillmaster?" Take your turn at identifying proper cooking temperatures for Wisconsin meat.

Learn more about bad bugs by searching for them in our "backyard." Meet Vinvasive and ask our staff how to protect your backyard from buggy hitchhikers like him and other hungry pests.

DATCP's popular button maker will be back again this year. Come to the Farm & Family Building to color your own souvenir button to wear.

Spin the "Feet, Fins, Feathers and Farms Wheel" to learn trivia facts about animals on our Wisconsin farms. Find out what makes foods in our grocery stores Something Special *from* WisconsinTM and get a temporary tattoo of the red and yellow trademark.

Test your knowledge of consumer scams and how to avoid them or see how DATCP staff inspect gas stations to make sure you are getting the bang for your buck at the pump. Protect your phone, whether you are on the go or at home, from unwanted telemarketing phone calls by signing up for the No Call List.

Keep yourself cool at the fair with a colorful handheld, fact-filled fan that you can pick up at DATCP's Farm & Family Building. Limited supplies are available.

The Farm & Family Building is located in State Fair's Ag Village, just west of the Badgerland Financial Discovery Barnyard. For details about the Fair, visit http://www.wistatefair.com/wp/.

The mission of DATCP is to serve Wisconsin by assuring food safety, fair business practices, consumer protection, healthy plants and animals, efficient use of agricultural resources, and the vitality of agriculture. You can always connect with DATCP on Twitter at twitter.com/widatcp or Facebook at facebook.com/widatcp.

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